Shivpuri town have already been widened to four lane. 1 km. road in Guna town is being widened to 4 lane. Rest of the road from Gwalior upto Maharashtra border to two lane. The feasibility study and Detailed Project Report (DPR) for four laning the stretch from Indore to Khalghat (In a length of 74 kms.) is under preparation.

No accident on account of narrowness of this highway has been reported.

Provision of world class roads

3094. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that if proper roads are provided in cities and highways, the efficiency of trucks would be more than the double as trucks would cover 600 kilometres per day against 250—300 kilometres at present and better multiple axle truck could be used finally resulting in a drop in freight rates; and

(b) if so, Government's plans for providing world class roads and the time-frame for its implementatbn?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) Efficiency of trucks and motorised vehicles is dependent upon several factors including road conditions. Therefore, it is difficult to quantify increase in efficiency due to improvement in road conditions alone. The World Bank has assessed that on completion of the Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) savings to the Nation would be of the order of about Rs. 8000 crore per year. Use of multiple axle vehicle is also recommended by this Ministry.

(b) Government has undertaken National Highway Development, Project (NHDP) for 4/6-laning of National Highways consisting of GO having a length of 5846 km. connecting the four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Mumbai and North-South and East-West corridors (Corridors) having a length of 7300 km. connecting Srinagar in J&K to Kanyakumari alongwlth Salem-Cochin spur and Silcharto Porbandar. GQ and Corridors are scheduled for substantial completion by December, 2003 and December, 2007 respectively.